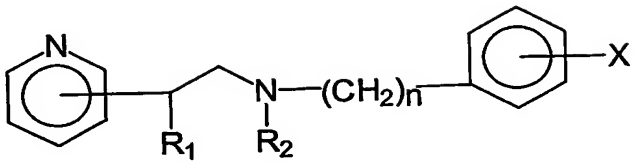
CLAIMS

1. Compounds of formula I



I

wherein

n is an integer from 1 to 4
R_1 is a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl group or lower C_{1-6} alkoxy group
R_2 is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched lower C_{1-6} alkyl group
X is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl group, trifluoromethyl group, 3,4-di-Cl , 2,4-di-Cl or lower C_{1-6} alkoxy group

and enantiomers, diastereoisomers or racemates thereof or the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

2. The compounds according to claim 1 in which n is an integer 2, R_1 is a hydroxyl group, R_2 a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl or isobutyl group and X is a hydrogen atom or phenyl disubstituted with 2 chlorine atoms in the positions 3 and 4 or in the positions 2 and 4

3. The compounds according to claims 1 and 2 in which R_1 is a hydroxyl group in the RS configuration.

4. 1-(3-pyridyl-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

5. 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-phenylethyl)-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

6. 1-(3-pyridy)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

7. 1-(4-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

8. The compounds of formula I according to any of claims 1 to 7 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis in the treatment of hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia in humans.

9. The pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compound of formula I according to any of claims 1 to 7 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

10. Use of the compounds of formula I according to any claims 1 to 7 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis for preparation of the pharmaceutical compositions for treating hypercholestrerolemia and hyperlipema in humans.

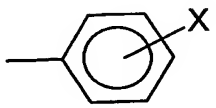
11. The process for preparation of the compounds of formula I according to any of claims 1 to 7 which process comprises

    a) alkylating secondary amines of formula VI

$NHR_2CH_2CH_2Z$ VI

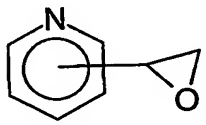
wherein

R_2 is as defined above in formula I and Z is a group



in which X is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

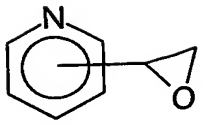
and, if desired, the obtained compounds of fomula I are converted into the salt or

b) alkylating primary amines of formula VIII

R_2NH_2 VIII

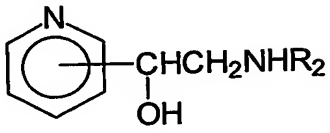
wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

to intermediate compounds of formula IX



IX

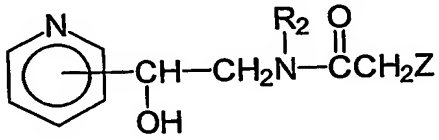
wherein R_2 is as define above in formula I,

and condensing with the derivatives of phenylacetic acid of formula X

$HOOCCH_2Z$

wherein Z is as defined above,

to intermediate compounds of formula XI



XI

and reducing them to the title compounds of formula I, and, if desired, converting them into the salt.